
The Department of Commerce Annual Performance Plan

Fiscal Year 2001

(Revised)



William M. Daley
Secretary

Robert L. Mallett
Deputy Secretary

Secretary's Foreword



The past seven years have witnessed a remarkable economic expansion -- now the longest in our Nation's history. This expansion has resulted in the lowest unemployment levels in 30 years, the creation of hundreds of thousands of new, high-paying jobs, and the phenomenal growth of our Nation's high technology firms. During the same period, our way of conducting business has been undergoing a major transformation, with the increasing use of the Internet and electronic commerce as the most visible and widely acknowledged hallmarks of this shift.

These achievements are intertwined with our Nation's productivity growth. Huge productivity gains have freed economic resources for other uses, accelerated the development and exploitation of new technologies and, in turn, spurred further productivity gains. As a result, our Nation's net worth has soared, increasing numbers of our citizenry have achieved economic security, and we are faced with the prospect of budget surpluses as far into the future as one may confidently predict.

The Department of Commerce is continuing to foster innovation and prosperity. We are promoting electronic commerce and pursuing steps to close the digital divide so that all of our citizens, businesses, schools, and communities may enjoy their share of our economic good fortune. We are taking special steps to help our under-privileged citizenry, including initiatives to strengthen Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities; to provide resources to communities harmed by plant closures and abrupt economic dislocations; to sustain the economic contributions of our oceans and rivers; to open markets abroad; and to produce sound demographic and economic data that help business make wise decisions.

Our efforts build from a common cornerstone -- manage for results, improve our use of resources, and respond to our country's evolving needs. As Secretary and as a manager, I believe that each of our programs must justify itself every day -- for without defensible performance, we can not fulfill our public trust.

This document, our third Annual Performance Plan, presents our operational plans for FY 2001 and was developed in concert with our FY 2001 budget request to Congress. In this plan, we discuss what we will do with the resources that we are asking to be entrusted to us. As a Department, we believe our Annual Performance Plan provides the basis for Congress and all Americans to assess our performance. I take great pride in presenting this plan as our commitment to America.

William M. Daley
Secretary of Commerce
